EXHIBIT 10

Page 1

TAKEN: 11-20-13

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN NORTHERN DIVISION

RECEIVED

DOROTHY ANDERSON and DEMARQUION MERRILL, as Co-Personal Representative of the Estate of BOBBY MERRILL, deceased,

DEC - 3 2013 Fieger, Fleger, Kenney, Giroux and Danzig, P.C.

Plaintiffs,

Case No.: 13-11159

vs.

Hon. Thomas Ludington

OFFICER JEFF MADAJ, individually, OFFICER JUSTIN SEVERS, individually, OFFICER BRIAN GUEST, individually, and OFFICER STEVEN WIETECHA, individually,

Defendants.

The Deposition of OFFICER JEFFREY J. MADAJ, taken before David S. Ripka, CSR-2175 and Notary Public in and for the County of Genesee, acting in the County of Saginaw, State of Michigan, at the offices of Ripka, Boroski & Associates, One Tuscola Street, Suite 301, Saginaw, Michigan, on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, commencing at or about 12:56 p.m.

APPEARANCES:

Fieger, Fieger, Kenney, Giroux, Danzig & Harrington, P.C. BY: ROSS A. BRUNETTI, ESQ. (P73080) 19390 West 10 Mile Road Southfield, Michigan 48075 (248) 355-9049

Appearing on behalf of Plaintiffs,

Ripka, Boroski & Associates, LLC (800)542-4531/(810)234-7785/Fax(810) 234-0660

email: rba@ripkaboroski.net Firm Registration No. 008139

	Page 2		Page 4
1	APPEARANCES (Continued):	1	Saginaw, Michigan
2	Plunkett Cooney	2	Wednesday, November 20, 2013
_	BY: H. WILLIAM REISING, ESQ. (P19343)	3	12:56 p.m.
3	111 East Court Street	•	PROCEEDINGS
4	Suite 1B	5	OFFICER JEFFREY J. MADAJ,
4	Flint, Michigan 48502	6	having been duly swom by the Reporter, was examined, and
5	(810) 342-7001	1	testified on his oath as follows:
6	Appearing on behalf of Defendants.		MR. BRUNETTI: This is the deposition of
7	Appearing on bondin or bondina.	9	Saginaw Police Officer Jeff Madaj taken pursuant to
8		10	notice and the Federal Court Rules.
9		11	EXAMINATION
10		12	BY MR. BRUNETTI:
11		13	Q Officer Madaj, how are you today?
12		14	A Fine.
13 14		15	Q My name is Ross Brunetti. I'm the attorney representing
15		16	the estate of Bobby Merrill in this case. Okay?
16		17	A Yes.
17		10	Q This is a deposition. It is basically a
18		19	question-and-answer session. I'm going to ask you
19		20	questions. You provide answers to the best of your
20		21	ability. Do you understand?
21		22	A Yes.
22		23	Q Okay. When I ask you a question, please give a verbal
23 24		24	yes, no, or another verbal response. Please refrain from
25		25	answering questions with yeahs, unh-hunhs or nods or
	Page 3	1	- P
	•		Page 5
1	INDEX OF WITNESS	1	Page 5 shakes of your head. Do you understand?
1 2	_	2	•
2	_	3	shakes of your head. Do you understand?
1 2 3	INDEX OF WITNESS WITNESS PAGE	3	shakes of your head. Do you understand? A Yes.
2	INDEX OF WITNESS	3 4 5	shakes of your head. Do you understand? A Yes. Q And I realize you've probably testified in court before.
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(Pages 2 to 5)

TAKEN: 11-20-13

Ripka, Boroski & Associates, LLC email: rba@ripkaboroski.net (800)542-4531/(810)234-7785/Fax(810) 234-0660 Firm Registration No. 008139

Page 30 Page 32 A No. 1 A No. 2 Q Have you ever had your deposition taken before? That's what I thought. So you didn't have any sort of A Yes taser training when you initially went to the police Q And what were the circumstances around having your academy? deposition taken before? A No. A Honestly, I do not recall. I know it wasn't here that I Q Okay. So it focused on, like you said, the basic stuff: took it. It was when I first started. criminal law, probably criminal procedure, police 8 Q So, again, it was a while ago? procedure, firearms training, hand to hand and physical 9 A Oh, yes. It was on... hmm, off of State Street, State management of suspects and basically policies and 10 and... I'm trying to think of the other crossroad there. 10 protocols, correct? 11 Q Was the deposition related to your employment with the 11 A That's correct. 12 City of Saginaw? 12 Q Okay. Did they teach you about the force continuum? 13 A Yes. 13 А 14 Were you a witness for something? 34 Q And has it roughly stayed the same since that time frame 15 I believe I was a witness. 15 when you were with the Northeastern Basic Police Academy? 16 Q Okay. So you weren't being sued; you weren't a party to 16 A At this time, to my knowledge, It has. I don't believe 17 17 it's changed. 18 Α 16 Q Okay. What is your understanding of the force continuum? 19 MR. REISING: And there is a court reporter 19 A The way that I understand it is, the police are - the 20 office over in that area over on - State Street by Dawn 20 way that I was instructed is that we could go one up, 21 Donuts? 21 meaning if somebody put their hands on us, we could 22 THE WITNESS: Yes. 22 obviously put our hands on them. However, at the time. 23 MR. REISING: There you go. 23 we only had mace or pepper spray. So we could pepper 24 THE WITNESS: That's right where it was near. 24 spray that person. 25 I'm trying to think of - I think the road starts with an Then there's pressure points, obviously. You Page 31 1 "H." I believe. know, we're allowed, you know, the - I don't know what 2 MR. REISING: I know Dawn Donuts. it's called. I can show you where they're at. I don't 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's - it was right by recall the proper terms anymore. But we have pressure points that we could deploy or use. Q (BY MR. BRUNETTI) Okay. I want to go back just a little 5 Q To help me out to make sure that I understand the force 6 bit to your training at the Northeastern Basic Police continuum, could you tell me, what's the bottom first Academy. What kind of training did you receive at the 7 level of the force continuum? Northeastern Basic Police Academy? 8 A I think there's passive resistance. A You start, obviously, with law, criminal law, police 9 Q And what are you allowed to do if someone is being 10 procedures. You have firearms training. You have -10 passively resistant? 11 they call it PPC tactics, which is - I would compare it 11 A We can detain that person, meaning if they're being 12 similar to nonlethal in the military. 12 passive resistant, if they were blocking entry into, 13 Q Now, when you say PPC tactics, you're referring to 13 let's say, the courthouse for that matter, if they were 14 hand-to-hand training, right? 14 protesting something at the courthouse, we can remove 15 15 that person. They're blocking the courthouse. 16 Q And so when you say nonlethal training, you're referring 16 Q Now, when you say remove, do you mean physically -17 to nonlethal hand-to-hand training, correct? 27 Α Yes. 18 O - put hands on and remove? 19 Q So these are the sort of like holds or physical takedowns 19 A Yes. 20 20 or physical managing of a suspect, correct? Q Okay. For passive resistance, can you deploy any kind of 21 A Yes. 21 handheld weapon, like a baton, or some sort of other 22 Q Okav 22 management device? 23 A We also had physical fitness. Driving, techniques of 23 A I don't believe you can. 24 driving. 24 Q So for passive resistance, it's pretty much just physical 25 Q At that time, were police departments issuing tasers? 25 management?

(Pages 30 to 33)

TAKEN: 11-20-13

Page 34 Page 36 A Yes. 1 A Well, I'll give you an example. I've had an individual 2 Q So you can put your hands on them, physically move them, 2 that tried to run my partner over during a drug do what you have to do to get them out of the area? investigation with their vehicle. i've had an individual that's pointed a gun at 5 Q Okay. What's the next level after passive resistance? 5 6 6 Well, then you obviously have active resistance. Q So in both of those situations, it sounds like the person Q And what are you allowed to do when someone is - well, 7 is using potentially deadly force against you or against 8 first, let me ask you this: What is active resistance? a partner? A Active resistance means, to me, if a subject is running A Yes. 10 10 away from me and there's a reason - I have a legitimate Q So, in a situation in which deadly force is being used 11 reason to chase, I can pursue that individual. against you or someone that you see, you believe it's 12 Q Okay. So when you say running away, do you mean like 12 okay to use deadly force? 13 13 actively trying to get away from you? Is that what you A Yes. 14 consider active resistance? 14 Q Okay. 15 A That would be one form, yes. 15 A I mean, even if you -- I was off duty one time. I 16 16 Q Okay. What other forms can you think of for active encountered a robbery at a 7-Eleven in progress. 17 17 Q What did you do when you encountered the robbery at resistance? 28 18 (No response) 7-Eleven? 19 19 A I was driving past. I seen the individual behind the Q So we've got running away. 20 20 counter. I turned my truck around. Drove up into the A If you go to handcuff somebody, they pull away from you, 21 21 lot. A female ran out and she was screaming, saying if - let's say you're at a domestic assault, the 22 22 husband's - and the husband is the assaulter, and the that, "He has a gun, and he told me not to leave. I was 23 23 wife is the victim, and he's pushing her or hitting her supposed to go with him." The clerk was still in there. 24 24 I reached for my off-duty gun. Unfortunately, or slapping her, and you tell him to stop, he doesn't, 25 that would be active resistance. I didn't have It because I cleaned my truck that day, and Page 37 Q Okay. And what sort of force are you allowed to use for the neighborhood I live in has a bunch of kids, and I put active resistance? it up on top of my refrigerator. So I dealt with him Once again, I can use physical force. I could use my using my truck and my cellphone. mace. I could use my department-issued ECD. Q Now, when you say dealt with him using your truck, what What's an ECD? did you do with your truck? Electronic control device. A I was able to get the clerk out of the store. I had the So is that a taser? clerk and that female, the other -- the two victims into We had tasers. Now we have a different brand. I don't my truck. And I communicated on my cellphone with even know the name of it, to be honest with you. Central Dispatch. And I used my truck to try to prevent 10 Q But it functions in the same sort of way? 10 him from getting into his vehicle until the police could 11 11 A Yes. 12 Q So it's a device that produces an electric charge that 12 Q How did you do that? How did you effectively try to 13 13 transfers to the person you're putting the device on? prevent him from getting into his vehicle? 14 Blocked his door. 15 Q Okay. And you can use those, you're saying, for active 15 Q With your truck? 16 resistance? 16 Yeah. 17 17 So you pulled -18 18 Q All right. Anything else you're allowed to do for active Positioned the front end of my truck so, you know, he 19 resistance? 19 couldn't enter the passen - the driver's side of that 20 20 vehicle. And then he was going to run away, so I blocked 21 Q Okay. What's the next step after active resistance? 21 his exit with my truck from running. And at that time, 22 22 A Well, I believe it's deadly force. That would be the the police were actually pulling onto the scene. 23 23 next step to me, if you... Q When you say, "blocked his exit," so you pulled your

24

25

Yes.

(Pages 34 to 37)

truck up, grilled his driver's side door?

TAKEN: 11-20-13

you to use deadly force?

Q So what would someone have to be doing in order to allow

24

25

Page 38 Page 40 Q Okay. And then he tried to flee, so he tried running? 1 there? 2 A He was going to run northbound and go across the fence. A That's correct. And I drove through the parking lot, and when he seen Q So you didn't actually get up on the stand and testify? what I was doing, he tried to get back to the car. But It was too late for him because the units were pulling Q Okay. Did the person who effected the robbery ever try on claiming that you tried to hit him with your truck? Q Okay. A Not to my knowledge. Q Okay. All right. So we digressed briefly. I apologize A – several units. Q So when you pulled your car through the parking lot, how for that 30 10 were you trying to prevent his escape with your truck? Getting back to the force continuum, if someone 11 11 is standing with their hands up, but they're not A Well, his car was on the east side of the building. I 12 12 listening to a verbal command, or not responding to a was able to position my truck so he couldn't get in. 13 13 verbal command, what sort of classification would you Then when he realized he couldn't get in, he started to 14 14 give that on the force continuum? walk north through the parking lot towards the fence. 15 15 I'm allowed to ask a question, correct? Which if he got over the fence, then it goes into an 16 36 Sure. Go ahead. apartment complex. I didn't want that. 17 17 A It depends. And the reason that I say it depends, I So I drove my truck around by the fence area. 10 18 would have to have it clarified. What was the person And when I did that, that pushed him back towards his 39 doing before that? 19 vehicle, which is what I wanted. And at the same time I 20 Q Let's say that there had been no allegation that the 20 could hear the units pulling up. 21 person was a threat, okay? But let's say that there was 21 Q I got you. So you tried putting your truck between him 22 22 an allegation that the person might have been disruptive, and the fence? 23 23 okay? Hadn't tried hurting anyone, hadn't tried taking A Yes. 24 anyone's property, okay? But for whatever reason, law 24 Q All right. And were you able to get your truck in 25 enforcement arrives on the scene because they have an 25 between him and the fence? Page 39 1 A Yes. I was able to have the desired effect. Because assertion that someone has been disruptive. And when law 2 when he seen what I was doing, he went and tried to get 2 enforcement arrives, the person has their hands up but 3 back into his car. doesn't respond to verbal commands. Q I got you. So he saw you moving in that area, and he Passive. bolted back to the car? You would call that passive? A Q Okay. And after he got back to the car, did the units Q And then what would you do in a situation like that if arrive? someone were standing with their hands up and not A Yes. listening to a verbal command? 10 20 O And were they able to effectively take him into custody? A I would, first off, try to get that individual's 11 11 attention 12 Did you do anything else at that point? 12 Q How would you try to get their attention? 13 A Well, no. I just obviously had to give a statement to 13 A Communicating with verbal commands or me verbally asking 14 the officers. 14 them, you know, "What's going on with you? Are you 15 Q And when did this happen? 15 okay?" You know, what you just stated, you may have a 16 Oh, probably three or four years ago. 16 person that doesn't speak, that's deaf. 17 And do you remember approximately when? 17 Q So that's the first thing that comes to your mind? If 18 A I believe it was in the summertime. someone's standing with their hands up, but they're not 19 Q So it would have been like May, June, July? 19 responding to a verbal command, you indicated they might 20 be deaf? 21 Q And did you ever have to go to court and testify for 21 A Yes. 22 that? 22 Q Okay. And you indicated that the first thing that you 23 A I went to court. The two victims did all the testifying 23 would do is you would try to communicate with them 24 in that matter. 24 further and ask them, "Hey, are you all right?" Sort of 25 Q Okay. So your testimony wasn't needed, but you were 25 trying to figure out what's going on, right?

(Pages 38 to 41)

TAKEN: 11-20-13

TAKEN: 11-20-13 Page 150 Page 152 Α No. cartridge from it and drive-stunned him. , Q But you know that he was on the right side of Bobby Q At this point, had Bobby Merrill tried to strike any of Merrill? the officers? A He was like, yes, like kind of right behind me. But I A Not that I had observed. don't know what he was doing. Okay. At this point - well, strike that. Q Okay. So Severs was behind you at this point? Before you drive-stunned Bobby Merrill, did you A Yes let him know that you were going to stun him? All right. As you approached, what did you do? A No. I went to his right side, attempted to get his right arm So you didn't say, "Put your hands behind your back or 10 out from under him. It did not work. At that time --10 I'm going to stun you"? 11 Q I'm going to slow you down for a second. 11 A No. 12 How did you try to get the right arm? 12 Q Okay. At the time that you drive-stunned Bobby Merrill, 13 A Grab it, pull it out. 13 was he still on his knees? 34 Q Where was his right arm? 14 A Yes. 15 A It was up in front, like right up in here, like up 15 So he wasn't standing? 16 towards the -- like his chest area, let's say. 16 No. 17 Q Was he still on his knees at this point? 17 Was he still hunched over? 18 18 Α 19 Okay. And I imagine, given that you said he was still Q I apologize. Just give me one... I'm going to show you a 20 20 kind of facing the concrete earlier, is he kind of document. These are Requests for Admissions that were 21 21 hunched over his knees? directed toward you, I'm assuming answered by your 22 A Yeah, he was kind of on his knees and hunched forward, 22 attorney. Did you ever see this document --23 you know, not straight up but actually hunched forward. 24 Q And you said that the left arm was tucked by the belt 24 O -- the Request for Admissions? 25 25 line, and the right arm that you're grabbing at is up I would like to direct your attention to Page 151 Page 153 near the chest? 1 Request to Admit Number 8. It says, "Please admit that A Yes. Defendant Officer Jeff Madaj deployed his taser on the 3 Q All right. When you grabbed Bobby's right arm, did you decedent, Bobby Merrill, without first providing warning tell anything to him -- tell him anything? or notification. Just to, "Put your hands behind your back." You denied that as untrue, correct? Q Did he give any response? That's correct. And here today you're testifying that you did not tell Q Did you try talking to Bobby Merrill at this point? Bobby Merrill that you were going to deploy your taser if Repeatedly, "Put your hands behind your back." he didn't comply, correct? 10 So you repeated, "Put your hands behind your back. Put 10 A That's correct. 11 your hands behind your back. Put your hands behind your 11 Q Okav. 12 back*? 12 MR. BRUNETTI: I'm going to ask this be marked 13 Yes 13 and admitted as Exhibit 2 14 What was your manner of which that you told him that? 14 (Deposition Exhibit Number 2 was marked 15 Δ With authority: "Put your hands behind your back." 15 for identification by the reporter) 16 Q Okay. So you used -- you were using an authoritative 16 MR. BRUNETTI: And I'm also going to have the 17 tone to tell him that? 17 interrogatories marked and admitted as Exhibit 3, 18 A Yes. 18 probably. Why don't we just do that now, because we 19 Q And you're saying that he didn't comply? 19 referred to these earlier. 20 He did not comply. 20 (Deposition Exhibit Number 3 was marked 21 Q Did he ever give you a verbal response? 21 for identification by the reporter) 22 No, not that I recall. 22 Q (BY MR. BRUNETTI) After you drive-stunned Bobby Merrill 23 0 Okay. What happened after you couldn't get his right 23 with your taser, and that's - just for clarification 24 24 again, that's where you take the cartridge off and you 25 I took out my department-issued taser, removed the 25

(Pages 150 to 153)

actually take the body of the taser and put it up to the

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Page 154 Page 156 person, correct? A No. That's correct. O Did he ever say anything as this was going on? Okay. Did he respond to that stun? He was -None whatsoever. As the tasing was going on. Q Did he physically respond to that stun? Yes, he did. I do not recall what it was in specifics. A No. He was cussing. That I do know. Q Did he cry out in pain? Q Okay. Α No. 8 A But whether it was a certain cuss word, I couldn't teil Q Did his body go rigid? you. 10 Α 10 Q How much time elapsed between your first trying to get 11 Q 11 Bobby Merrill's right arm out from under him and the last What happened after that? 12 A I attempted to drive-stun him two to three more times 12 taser application? 13 with no effect. 13 A (Counting with fingers) That was five seconds right Q When you first drive-stunned him, what part of his body 14 14 there, so - what I just counted off. It would have 15 did you put the taser on? 15 approximately been five seconds. 16 A Right between his shoulder blades. 16 Q Okay. So at the time that you saw you couldn't get the 17 Q So on his back? 17 right arm out from under Bobby Merrill, you tased him 18 Yes. 18 four times in five seconds? 19 When you drive-stunned him a second time, where did you 19 MR. REISING: That's not what the witness said. 20 20 put the taser? MR. BRUNETTI: I thought that's what he said. 21 21 Same - same location. I'm looking for clarification. 22 22 0 Right between the shoulder blades? THE WITNESS: Okay. I counted -- what I just 23 23 counted off, I would have exactly thought that that was 24 about five seconds. Now, you have to understand --24 When you drive-stunned him a third time, where did you 25 25 put the taser? Q (BY MR. BRUNETTI) Okay. Page 155 Page 157 Same location. - going back, you know, when you say, "tase him," 2 Same location. And did you ever apply the taser to a drive-stun -different portion of his body? Q Right. Let me -- let me rephrase. Yes Okav. 0 What other portion? Let's try to do it this way. Because, really, I'm not it was his left arm trying -- I don't want this to be inaccurate. I'm trying Q Was that to get as accurate a picture as I can. Okay? - near his hand. The first application of the drive-stun taser Q And was that the last time you tased him? technique that you applied between his shoulder blades, 10 A Yes. 10 okay, how long after you had realized you're not going to 11 Q Okay. Left arm near his hand. Could you show me on your 11 get his right arm out from under him until you tased him 12 arm where you would have applied the taser 12 in that position? 13 A (Demonstrating) Approximately in between the elbow and 13 Could you repeat it one more time. 14 the wrist on the left arm. 14 Okay. The moment that you realized you weren't going to 15 15 get his right arm out from under him, okay? 16 it would have been the -16 Yes. 17 Q The outer edge of the left arm --17 At that moment, when you realized that wasn't going to 18 A Yes. 18 happen, how long did it take before you made that first 19 Q - between the forearm and the - between the elbow and 19 taser application? 20 20 A Approximately three to four seconds. 21 21 Okay. And that initial drive-stun between the shoulder 22 Q Okay. Did he respond to any of those taser encounters? 22 blades, how long did that application last? 23 A No. 23 One second. 24 Q Did he ever cry out in pain in response to any of those 24 One second. Okay. 25 taser encounters? 25 The second application between the shoulder

(Pages 154 to 157)

email: rba@ripkaboroski.net Firm Registration No. 008139

TAKEN: 11-20-13

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN NORTHERN DIVISION

DOROTHY ANDERSON and DEMARQUION MERRILL, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of BOBBY MERRILL, deceased,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No.: 13-11159 Hon. THOMAS LUDINGTON

OFFICER JEFF MADAJ, individually, OFFICER JUSTIN SEVERS, individually, OFFICER BRIAN GUEST, individually, and OFFICER STEVEN WIETECHA, individually,

Defendants.

The Deposition of JEFFREY MADAJ, taken before me, Jeffrey D. Stupak, RPR, CSR 8314, Notary Public, on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at Ripka, Boroski & Associates, One Tuscola Street, Saginaw, Michigan commencing at or about 1:03 p.m.

APPEARANCES:

GARY N. FELTY, JR. (P55554)
FIEGER, FIEGER, KENNEY, GIROUX & HARRINGTON, P.C.
19390 West Ten Mile Road
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Appearing on Behalf of Plaintiffs.

H. WILLIAM REISING (P19343)

PLUNKETT COONEY, P.C.

111 East Court Street, Suite 1B

Flint, Michigan 48502

Appearing on Behalf of Defendants.

Page 213 INDEX OF WITNESS WITNESS: JEFFREY MADAJ PAGE EXAMINATION BY MR. FELTY
2 WITNESS: JEFFREY MADAJ PAGE 3 EXAMINATION BY MR. FELTY
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4 EXAMINATION BY MR. REISING
5 Department. 6 INDEX OF EXHIBITS 7 EXHIBIT PAGE 7 A. When we concluded. 8 NO ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS WERE MARKED 9 10 out to the scene, my understanding is you were at the 11 police station and you heard the call come over the 12 radio, I believe it was an Officer Severs requesting 13 assistance on scene; am I getting that correct? 14 A. I was actually on my way to another call. I had left 15 department, I heard the calls go out, there's two calls 16 that pretty much went out simultaneously, so based or 17 those calls, I left the Saginaw Police Department and 18 started to travel towards the other one was on 19 Glenwood, and it was a B and E in progress with an a 20 assailant. 21 Q. I guess what I meant is were you physically in the 22 station when you heard the call, or were you already your car? 24 A. Well, they put out the gun call and they put out the
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24 A. Well, they put out the gun call and they put out the
25 individual in traffic, which would have been the Men
Page 214 Page
1 Tuesday, March 18, 2014 1 call, just prior to the gun call going out. So I was
2 Saginaw, Michigan 2 aware that they were going on.
3 1:03 p.m. 3 Q. Okay.
4 JEFFREY MADAJ, 4 A. That those were and that's why I left the department
5 a witness herein, was called for examination, and after 5 Q. All right. What was your knowledge of what Officer,
6 having been duly sworn was examined and testified on 6 believe it was Officer Severs already on scene, and
7 their oath as follows: 7 that's who made the call; is that correct?
8 EXAMINATION 8 A. "Severs."
9 BY MR. FELTY: 9 Q. Severs?
10 Q. Would you restate your name for the record?
11 A. Jeffrey, J-e-f-f-r-e-y, Madaj, M-a-d as in David -a-j.
12 Q. You're still a police officer working for the City of 12 to be?
13 Saginaw? 13 A. The original call was for an individual in traffic, and
14 A. That's correct. 14 then Officer Severs arrived on scene. I'm specifically
15 Q. What is your rank? 15 recalling that he was asking for additional officers.
16 Q. Did you have any idea why, when you heard the call,
17 Q. Now I know you've sat for quite a while on a prior 17 he was asking for additional officers?
occasion, I have had an opportunity to read your 18 A. Well, because an individual down there was I think
deposition transcript and I'm going to try not to 19 put that he was on top of a vehicle and that he then
20 duplicate questions. 20 tried to get into a vehicle that was occupied.
21 A. Okay. 21 Q. Did you listen to any of the any of the phone call
22 Q. And hopefully be out of here in an hour or so. It looked 22 transmissions from that day regarding Mr. Merrill and
like when the deposition concluded that there was some 23 what occurred on the street?
discussion regarding the circumstances after you found 24 A. No.
25 Mr. Merrill in the back of the police car. Is that what 25 Q. Were you aware of any?

- 1 A. I would imagine that there was phone calls that were made
- 2 because central dispatch, they would have had no way of
- 3 knowing what was going on. You know what I'm saying?
- 4 And there's no way that we would have known, unless you
- 5 had an officer that was there, but it was a 911-generated
- 6 dispatch call.
- 7 Q. All right.
- A. Which means somebody called in.
- 9 Q. And I guess what I meant was were you aware of the 10 content of any calls?
- 11 A. I never familiarized myself with those.
- 12 Q. When you set out to the... respond to the scene where
- 13 Officer Severs was at, did you have any thought that
- 14 there was a dangerous situation going on?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. What was your thought?
- 17 A. Well, my thought was the tone of Officer Severs' voice
- 18 saying that he needs somebody down there now. He needed
- 19 additional officers.
- 20 Q. Did you make any communication with him, via radio or
- 21 otherwise, asking about what was going on before you got
- 22
- 23 A. No, because at that time we were in -- which means
- 24 they're holding the air. Those that are on scene, it is
- 25 their responsibility to brief us. We don't want to jump

1 just tell you that?

- 2 A. That was from the Michigan State Police. I was told that
- 3 from... it would have been, I believe it was Tom
- 4 Heritier, who's our... he's our master firearms
- 5 instructor, and he also was the one that downloaded the
- 6 Tasers, and I believe that that information was relayed
- 7 to him. But I thought I did it four times, but I since
- 8 found out that it was twice and it was for one second
- 9 each time.
- 10 Q. And the method of use that you employed is called the 11 what? The drive? Or...
- 12 A. The method that I used is call a drive-stun.
- 13 O. Drive-stun?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And the reason I'm asking, I don't want you to describe
- 16 it or anything like that, but do you know if, when you
- 17 use the drive-stun mode, if it activates the camera?
- 18 A. I believe it does. I believe any time that you turn the
- 19 safety off, which would mean putting it in the fire mode, 20
 - that it records.
- 21 Q. At your last deposition you indicated, I think on a 22 couple of occasions during the course of the deposition,
- 23 that you had prior knowledge of Bobby Merrill; is that
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

Page 218

Page 220

Page 219

- 1 on the air and ask questions because we could be tying up
- 2 the radio when it could be, you know, whether it's the
- 3 one call was shots fired, the other one was he's asking
- 4 for help so there's no sense for us. It's just to get
- 5 there to assist the officer.
- 6 Q. Other than him requesting assistance before you arrived,
- 7 did you hear any other communication from Officer Severs?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Now I didn't hear your answer to this question, and maybe
- 10 I didn't even ask it. Did you ever listen to recordings
- 11 of any phone conversations regarding this incident?
- 12 A. No, I would imagine that central dispatch has phone 13 recordings because they record everything, and even our
- 14 radio traffic, but I never listen to it, no.
- 15 Q. All right. Did you see any of the video from either
- 16 patrol cars on scene, or from any of the Tasers?
- 17 A. Not that I recall.
- 18 Q. To your knowledge, the Tasers, I understand from reading
- 19 your transcript that you used your TASER, I think, four
- 20 times on the day that's at issue; is that right?
- 21 A. On my report I stated that I used it four times, but
- 22 since that report I learned that I used my TASER twice,
- 23 with both of the times it was for a one-second
- 24 deployment.
- 25 Q. Did you review reports from the Tasers, or did somebody

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- Q. What was your prior knowledge of him? 1
- 2 A. I had worked for BAYANET, which is the Michigan State
- 3 Police drug concept team. During my course of
- 4 investigations on that narcotics team, we had done a drug
- 5 investigation into Bobby Merrill.
- 6 Q. Had you ever made an arrest of him?
- 7 A. I'm not going to speculate. I know that we generated
- 8 cases and I may have. I may have.
- 9 Q. You described a couple of people, Felix and Roosevelt, at
- 10 your last deposition, that you had knowledge of. I take
- 11 it from just working your district. Is that what you
- 12 call them?
- 13 A. Yeah, they're -- yeah, yeah. Yep.
- Q. And you've seen those individuals on a number of 14
- 15 occasions?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Did you have any knowledge of Bobby Merrill like you had
- 18 of, say, Roosevelt, for example?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Did you have any reason to think that Bobby Merrill was a
- 21 violent individual?
- 22 A. None that I could recall.
- 23 Q. Now as I understand it, on the date of the incident the
- 24 department had been using Tasers for about three years;

25 does that sound right? 2008 to two-thousand or was it Page 221 Page 223

- 1 2012? I think it was 2010.
- 2 A. I think our department had been using them --
- 3 Q. I'm sorry, it was 2012. So about four years?
- 4 A. I think we were using them before that.
- 5 Q. All right. I thought you indicated last time that you
- 6 got them about around 2008. Is that --
- 7 A. Well, the reason I say that I believe that we had them
- 8 before that is because when I went to training, I
- 9 actually went to TASER International training to be an
- 10 instructor, and I was working on a narcotics team at that
- time and I was in BAYANET from 2001 until 2005, came back 11
- 12 to the road for a little bit, then I went to FBI task
- force. I think it would be fair to say around 2008,
- 14 2007, somewhere in there. I don't know the exact year.
- 15 Q. When did you become the Community or get designated as
- 16 the --
- 17 A. Community police officer?
- 18 Q. Community police officer?
- 19 A. I'd probably been there for a year, so 2011, maybe the
- 20 tail end of 2010.
- 21 Q. And was that your role up through the date of this
- 22 incident?
- 23 A. Yes, I was community police officer.
- 24 Q. Are you still?
- 25 A. No, I'm a patrolman now.

- Now you want me to admit to that too?
- 2 A. Well, I guess if you... I guess, you know, there's
- 3 that... it's... it's an un... you can't control yourself.
- 4 You know, you can't control your -- your first thing is
- 5 to tense up and then you go down. Painful? I would call
- 6 it discomfort. I would call it uncomfortable.
- 7 Q. All right. You -- did you in fact tense up and then go
 - down to the ground?
- 9 A. Yes.

8

10

20

5

7

- Q. Do you remember how you went down to the ground when you
- 11 were Tased?
- 12 A. I went down face first onto a mat.
- 13 Q. Was there a recovery period for you? In other words, did
- 14 you become disoriented?
- 15 A. No. No, as soon as the charge stopped, I was fine.
- 16 Q. What do you mean as soon as it charged up?
- 17 A. No, charge stopped. You know, we took the full
- 18 five-second deployment.
- 19 Q. And what was, when you were fine, I mean what were you
 - able to do immediately?
- 21 A. I could have got right up if I wanted to.
- 22 Q. When you arrived on the scene on April 10th of 2012, was
- 23 it your understanding that Mr. Merrill had been Tased
- 24 with a probe?
- 25 A. When I pulled up, I believe that he had been Tased, based

Page 222

- 1 Q. As a community police officer, was a TASER a regular part
- 2 of your uniform on a daily basis, or did you choose when
- 3 to have one issued to you?
- 4 A. On a daily basis. You're still a patrolman, even though
- 5 you're a community police officer, you're just more in
- 6 direct contact with citizens, trying to solve the minor
- day-to-day problems that they consider important to them.
 Q. When you, before being trained as an instructor, you had
- 9 some training through the department in the use of the
- 10 TASER?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Did officers get Tased during the training?
- 13 A. I did.
- 14 Q. You did?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Were you Tased in both the drive-stun mode and the probe
- 17 mode?
- 18 A. During the training I was... I used the... I was struck
- 19 with the probes.
- 20 Q. And what was your response when you were struck with the 20
- 21 probes?
- 22 A. Went right to the ground.
- 23 Q. Is it painful?
- 24 A. You ever stick your finger on a 110 when you were a kid?
- Q. I just told you I tried to walk across the Detroit River.

- on what I observed with his body.
- 2 Q. What did you observe with his body when you pulled up?
- 3 Was he standing when you pulled up?
- 4 A. He was standing, and he locked up and went down to the
 - roadway. Fell down to the roadway.
- 6 Q. Did you observe, as you were approaching, wires from the
 - probes?
- 8 A. I didn't pay attention to that. I, you know, with him
- 9 going down, me getting out of my vehicle, I didn't -- I
- 10 don't recall seeing any wires at that time.
- 11 Q. Prior to April 10th of 2012, had you had occasion to use
- your TASER in the probe mode on individuals?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Do you know about how many times?
- 15 A. Just going to go through my head real quick. Six, eight?
- 16 Six to eight times.
- 17 Q. Did it have the same effect every time, I mean on the
- 18 different individuals?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. What are the different effects that you observed?
- 21 A. One individual, when I Tased him, he had on a heavy
- 22 leather jacket and the one dart penetrated his pant leg
- but the other one didn't penetrate the jacket so there
- was no, we call it a "hookup." The TASER did not
 function properly because it didn't have skin-to-skin

4 (Pages 221 to 224)

Page 224

- 1 contact with both probes.
- 2 Q. And so did it have any effect?
- 3 A. No.

11

- 4 Q. All right, what else have you observed?
- 5 A. On other occasions, the other ones with the dart being 6
 - deployed, the one individual actually reached back and --
- 7 was naked, reached back and pulled one of the darts right
- 8 out of his back and kept right on going.
- 9 Q. And was it your understanding that contact had been made
- 10 with both probes? A. Well, yeah. Yes.
- 12 Q. And do you know how long you were able to administer the
- 13 charge when the naked individual pulled it out of his --
- 14 before he pulled it out of his back?
- 15 A. It was... I would say it was probably two, two and a half
- 16 seconds that the ... you know, you could hear the ... the
- 17 TASER makes the noise, I guess you would call arcing.
- 18 Q. Any other, other than somebody going immediately down, 19 any other experiences when you've used the TASER?
- 20 A. Well, and when the darts are deployed; correct?
- 21 Q. Correct. I'm talking just the probe mode.
- 22 A. Yeah. Well, other than that the other ones had the
- 23 desired effect, they were Tased, they had good hookup,
- 24 they went down on the ground and we were able to take
- 25 them into custody.

- 1 with him.
 - 2 Q. Did you both hit that individual?
 - 3 A. Yes.
 - Q. And did you both Tase that individual, to your knowledge?
 - A. My partner Tased him first, and we tried to get him into
 - 6 custody, he was all greased up and -- anyhow, we tried to
 - 7 get him into custody, he jumped up and took off running,
 - 8 and I Tased him a second time.
 - 9 Q. Do you know --
 - 10 A. And he just reached back and... and we chased him down
 - 11 the road and were finally able to get him into custody
 - 12 with additional help from other officers.
 - 13 Q. Do you remember who your partner was with that
 - 14 individual?
 - 15 A. Doug Stacer.
 - 16 Q. To your recollection on that occasion, do you know if
 - 17 Doug's TASER made contact with both probes?
 - 18 A. I believe it did.
 - O. And do you know how long he sent a current? 19
 - 20 A. I would have... I believe it was five seconds.
 - 21 Q. Once the TASER is deployed, if a TASER is deployed and a
 - 22 person -- strike that.
 - 23 Are you aware of other occasions where the
 - 24 probes were deployed, made contact, and the person didn't
 - go down, other than with the naked guy?

Page 226

25

Page 228

Page 227

- 1 Q. When you were in training or from your own experience,
- 2 was it your understanding that the probes could make 3 contact without taking an individual down?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Did you learn that from TASER International?
- 6 A. No, Hearned that from my own experience. That, even 7 though you could have a deployment, if the wire breaks
- 8 coming out, you know, you don't have that... you could
- 9 actually hit them with both darts, but if there's a
- 10 separation of the wire where there's a break in the wire,
- 11 you're not going to have the hookup that... you're not
- 12 going to have... the TASER's not going to function.
- 13 Q. All right. When it doesn't function, does it make the,
- 14 what you called, the arcing noise?
- 15 A. Yes, and it actually makes like a different type of
- 16 arcing noise. You'd have to, in order to describe it,
- 17 you'd have to fire a cartridge that has a hookup and fire
- 18 one that maybe the wire's broke, and you can tell the
- 19 difference.
- 20 Q. The naked guy, did the wires break?
- 21 A. I don't know what happened on that. That guy, that
- 22 individual was... we didn't, when we Tasered him, we
- 23 didn't have any more cartridges, we only had two
- 24 cartridges, each of us had a cartridge, we both fired,
- 25 so... and then after that it was we had to go hands-on

- 1 A. Well, like the individual that I Tased in the... when he
- 2 was... he had the heavy jacket on. Even though the 3 probes hit him, the one didn't penetrate through to go to
- 4 the skin, so.
- 5 Q. I guess what I mean is with the naked guy, obviously if
- 6 they hit him they penetrated the skin?
- 7
- 8 Q. All right. Are you aware of other occasions where skin
- 9 penetration has been made, at your department, where the
- 10 person didn't go down, despite a current?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Did you ever, when you... in any of your training,
- 13 whether it was to use the TASER or to become an
- 14 instructor when you were, whether it was with TASER
- 15 International or through the department, was that issue
- 16 discussed, or did you receive any education in that area?
- 17 A. Yes.

24

- 18 Q. What education did you receive?
- 19 A. With TASER International, and even during our period of
- 20 instruction at the department, if you have one dart that
- 21 makes contact with the skin and you're able to come up on
- 22 the individual with the cartridge still connected to the
- 23 TASER, like let's say if I had one in your lower buttocks
- and I came up to you and was able to put it in between 25 your shoulder blades and if I were to pull the trigger on

5 (Pages 225 to 228)

- 1 question?
- 2 Q. Did you guys ever sit together, and let's talk about
- 3 before the reports were written, and discuss what
- 4 happened that day?
- 5 A. No.

8

- 6 Q. All right. Did the -- did you ever see any reports or
- 7 documents, whether it be the autopsy report or anything
 - else, that indicated how many probes hit Mr. Merrill?
- 9 A. I never seen a -- I have no clue how many probes hit him.
- 10 Q. Do you know if there was any determination made by the 11 department as to how many times current made it into the
- 12 system of Mr. Merrill?
- 13 A. The only portion that I know is what I was told, that I
- 14 Tased him for two one-second Tasings. Based on that, I
- 15 would assume that the department does have the
- 16 documentation or report that would indicate --
- 17 Q. But no one --
- 18 A. -- so and so used his TASER three times, or so and so
- 19 drive- stunned twice. Somebody obviously Tased him when
- 20 I pulled on. I don't know what officer that was. I
- 21 don't recall which officer Tased him. When he finally
- 22 went to the ground as I pulled on, I couldn't tell you
- 23 what officer that was.
- 24 Q. And you didn't see the video?
- 25 A. No.

Page 234

- 1 Q. Do you know what kind of clothing Mr. Merrill was wearing on the day of the incident?
- 2 3
- A. When I made contact with him, he had on a pair of white 4 tennis shoes, he had on a pair of jeans, I don't know if
- 5 they were black or blue, and he had on a T-shirt.
- 6 Q. Did he have any type of clothing on, based upon your
- 7 experience in using the TASER, that you believe would
- 8 have prevented a probe from making contact with his skin?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Did any officer that was involved tell you that they
- 11 deployed their TASER and failed, in probe mode, and
- 12 failed to make contact with Mr. Merrill?
- 13 A. The only thing that I recall is Officer Severs said that
- he had attempted to Tase him and it had no effect on him. 14
- 15 Q. Did he say that the probes did not make contact?
- 16 A. No, I don't ... I don't recall him making a comment about 17 that.
- 18 Q. Based upon -- you've used the drive-stun technique other
- 19 than with respect to Mr. Merrill; is that correct?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. To your knowledge, is the effect on the human muscle
- 22 system any different in drive-stun mode, versus probe
- 23
- 24 A. No, it's not, because I've drive-stunned somebody that
- 25 had ahold of me and I got... the current went right

- 1 through his body, right back around into my body.
- 2 Q. And did it knock you down?
- 3 A. Didn't knock me down. But it halted what I was
- 4 attempting to do because you don't have that control, and
- 5 it's like you've gotta let go of the trigger here.
- 6 Q. If I was understanding what you were saying earlier is,
- 7 and you tell me if I'm wrong, and I'm based upon -- this 8
 - can be either on what you've learned or what you've
- 9 observed. If the probes are further apart, is it less
- 10 effective at taking somebody down?
- 11 A. It's more effective. The further the spread, the more
- 12
- 13 Q. Okay. So I think what you were indicating then, and I'm
- 14 no scientist, which is why I went to law school, but if
- 15 they're closer together, there's a shorter current and it
- 16 might not be affecting the rest of the muscles?
- 17 A. That would be a correct statement.
- 18 Q. But the current, as long as you pull the trigger, is
- 19 still sending electricity through the body?
- 20 A. Yes, if you pull that, with a -- when the probe mode --
- 21 unless you shut it off, it's a five-second stun.
- 22 Q. And okay, so if you pull the trigger and hold it, it will
- 23 go for five seconds and stop?
- 24 A. If I fire the TASER, boom, it goes off, I release the
- 25 trigger, it's still going to cycle for five seconds

Page 236

Page 235

- 1 unless I turn the safety off.
- 2 Q. And what happens after five seconds if you don't turn the 3 safety off?
- 4 A. It will rearm itself where you can pull the -- where you 5 could pull the trigger again if need be.
- 6 Q. So you pull the trigger again. It won't just
- 7 continuously go?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. That's correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And the drive-stun mode, I've never actually physically
- 12 held one of this type, the drive-stun mode, I take it it
- 13 has two probes or something on the instrument itself?
- 14 A. No, you have to remove, if I'm going to drive-stun
- 15 somebody, I have to physically remove the cartridge.
- 16 Because if I don't remove the cartridge and I push it up
- 17 against your body the doors won't open. But the minute
- 18 somebody were to pull away, the doors are going to come
- 19 open and the probes are going to deploy. So I take the
- 20 cartridge off and it's just whatever that arc is,
 - whatever causes it to arc, you know, there's an
- 22 electrical current bouncing from one conductor to another
- 23 right at the tip of that, and so if I touch you with --
- 24 if I turn it on, I can turn it off right away and it'll
- 25 stop.

21

7 (Pages 233 to 236)

- Q. All right? 1
- A. And that's why I think I had the one second. I think I
- 3 put it on him and turned it off right away.
- Q. You mean with which individual?
- 5 A. With Mr. Merrill.
- Q. Okay. If you're in the drive-stun mode, does the gun 6
- 7 shut off after -- I'm calling it a gun. Does the
- 8 instrument shut off like it does in the probe mode after
- 9 five seconds? Or if you hold the trigger, will it just
- 10 keep going?
- 11 A. Huh, I don't know. That's a good question. I've never
- 12 done that. I know that I could turn it off instantly by
- 13 turning the safety off, but I... boy, I don't know.
- That's something I'd have to check out later on because I 14
- 15 don't know the answer to that one.
- 16 Q. Whether you, during the time -- you only went to TASER --
- 17 did you go to TASER International for training?
- 18 A. They came here to... I went up, I think it was in
- 19 Kalkaska where I went to school.
- 20 Q. All right?
- 21 A. They came here and, you know, they have their -- they
- 22 have instructors all over the United States, and the
- individual that instructed us was employed by TASER but 23
- 24 he was also a police officer somewhere here down in the
- 25 southeast part of the state.

Page 239

- 1 Q. During either of those courses, did the subject of 2 consequences or hazards of use get discussed?
- 3 A. Yes, it did.
- 4 Q. Was there any discussion about the use of Tasers
- 5 potentially being associated with a cause of a heart
- 6 attack?
- 7 A. Well, I can tell you what TASER told us is that there's
 - no documented proof that a TASER's ever caused anyone's
- 9

8

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- 10 Q. And did they tell you that when you went to the school?
- 11 A. Yes. Up in Kalkaska.
- 12 Q. What else if anything was discussed about Tasers causing
 - death?
- 14 A. Well, we talked about it amongst ourselves. I mean I
- 15 don't know how fast that dart's coming out, but I guess
- 16 if -- you know, it was brought up you're not going to
- 17 Tase anybody in the head because potentially that things
 - coming out of there, you hit somebody in the temple and
- 19 that could cause death. Obviously the face, you know,
- 20 you could cause blindness, you know, if you deployed that
- 21 on somebody's face.
- 22 Q. Did TASER International talk anything about electrocution
- 23 or heart failure as a result of being Tased?
- 24 A. No electrocution. And I think it was just the recent
- 25 class where they talked about, because we just had

Page 238

Q. All right. The instruction that you received by the

2 person employed by TASER, was that for you to become a

- 3 trainer?
- 4 A. Yes.

1

- 5 Q. And that's a two-year certification?
- 6
- 7 Q. Is that something, to your knowledge, that TASER does,
- they certify you for two years, or is that what your 8
- 9 department requires?
- 10 A. That's TASER International.
- 11 Q. And you did that in what year? I know you answered that before. 12
- 13 A. I would like to say it was around 2008, but I know that
- 14 our department had Tasers for probably a good year and a
- 15 half to two years before I went to school.
- 16 Q. But that was to be an instructor?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. You, your instruction in use was at the department by the
- 19 individual whose name I can't remember?
- 20 A. I had Tom Heritier and Tim Fink had put our school on at
- 21 the department.
- 22 Q. Did you have more than one school at the department, or
- 23 just the one?
- 24 A. Just the one. And, actually, it was at the FOP lodge. I
- 25 say "our department," but we put it on at the FOP lodge.

- Page 240
- 1 training again. But prior that, no.
- 2 Q. What did they talk about in the recent class?
- 3 A. Well, they changed their program quite a bit.
- 4 Q. How did the program change?
- 5 A. Well, they talked about, what is that, when you have a
- 6 pacemaker, individuals with pacemakers, it may disrupt
 - that. Excited delirium now.
- 8 Q. What do you understand an excited delirium to be?
- 9 A. Well, we'll use this case in point. Individual that is
- 10 under the influence of drugs, their actions when somebody
- 11 is... just to give a case in point. If you have an
- 12 individual that smokes one or two rocks of crack cocaine,
- 13 most of the time they're going to be able to function,
- 14 they're not going to be acting out the ordinary other
- 15 than, you know, they might show some signs of being a
- 16
- 17 But excited delirium now, taking the totality
- 18 of the circumstances, is you have an individual that's... 19
- we'll use Mr. Merrill. He's in traffic, he's jumping on 20 the backs of cars, he's trying to get into an occupied
- 21 car, he's refusing to obey a police officer, he's not
- 22 compliant, and even he made the comment to me that he
- 23 smoked 20 rocks of crack cocaine that day; that would be 24 excited delirium.

And I've also had the opportunity with another

8 (Pages 237 to 240)

- 1 individual, similar circumstances not too far from there,
- 2 that was the same thing where he was in the middle of the
- 3 roadway and we had to Tase him and he was -- we called,
- 4 just like we did here, we called MMR, which is our Mobile
- 5 Medical Response, which is the ambulance service to take
- 6 him to the hospital, to have him evaluated, which is what
- 7 we were going to do with Mr. Merrill.
- 8 Q. Okay. What did they tell you about excited delirium and
- 9 use of TASER?
- 10 A. Oh, they didn't go into in-depth like I just did. They
- 11 just said that there's a potential is there now, and that
- 12 you need to be aware of excited delirium.
- 13 Q. The potential of what?
- 14 A. Individuals that you may come in contact with could be in
- 15 that excited delirium state because of excessive drug
- 16 use.
- 17 Q. And what do you need to be aware of with respect to that? 17
- 18 A. How they're behaving, how they're acting.
- 19 Q. Well you, before going to the... or having the recent
- 20 education about it, you, I take it, you had experienced
- 21 people that were under the influence, maybe in traffic,
- 22 jumping on cars, trying to get into a car, not being
- 23 compliant; right?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. So whether it's called "excited delirium" or not,

Page 243 1 A. It wasn't TASER didn't -- I guess we should -- let's -- I

- 2 guess let's make this clear. The last class that I had,
- 3 it was a TASER class, the Saginaw Township instructor's
- 4 the one that had put the class on.
- 5 Q. Okay. It was a Saginaw Township instructor?
- 6 A. Well, MacDonald, vep.
- 7 Q. Who was that?
- 8 A. Jim MacDonald.
- Q. Jim MacDonald. When did this one happen?
- 10 A. We just had the course probably a month ago.
- 11 Q. So that was 2014?
- 12 A. Yes.

15

18

25

- 13 Q. Did Jim MacDonald explain to you and the others attending
- 14 the class that the body is stressed, therefore caution
 - should be used in using a TASER?
- 16 A. I think we should make this clear. Jim MacDonald did not
- use those words, neither did TASER. This is what I took
 - from my training. The exact wordage I couldn't tell you
- 19 what it was, but that's what I've taken from the
- 20 training.
- 21 Q. Do you remember approximately what the exact wordage was?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. Do you use more caution now in -- have you had an
- 24 occasion since going to that class to use your TASER,
 - either in probe mode or drive-stun?

Page 242

- that's something that you were already familiar with; is 1
- 2 that fair?
- 3 A. That's fair.
- 4 Q. Okay. So what did it have to do, that concept have to do
- 5 with the use of a TASER? Were they telling you the
- 6 person is more susceptible to injury? Less susceptible
- 7 to injury? Were they --
- 8 A. No, they telling -- we needed to be aware of that because
- 9 the body's already going through a tremendous amount of
- 10 exertion.
- 11 Q. So what do you need to be aware of it about?
- 12 A. That that condition exists.
- 13 Q. They told you the body's going through a tremendous
- 14 amount of exertion?
- 15 A. They didn't use those words. Those are my words.
- 16 Q. Okay?
- 17 A. But the body is, you know, it's stressed at that point in
- 18
- 19 Q. The body is stressed, you need to be aware of that, and
- 20 what do you need to be aware of and why?
- 21 A. Because of the condition that they're in.
- 22 Q. Was TASER International saying that if you encounter a
- 23 person in those circumstances, that the body is stressed
- 24 and you should use caution in Tasing them because it can
- 25 pose a hazard to them?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Have you had an occasion where you've encountered
- 3 somebody in the excited delirium since then?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Was there a reason why the TASER wasn't used at that
- 6 point in time?
- 7 A. I didn't deploy my TASER because one had already been
- 8 deployed.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. So there was no need. The individual, we had taken the
- 11 individual into custody.
- 12 Q. Do you use more caution yourself?
- 13 A. We just recently got purchased Tasers so the other ECD
- 14 device that we had, or electric control device that we
- 15 had, none of us had faith in it so we didn't carry it.
- Q. Okay. I guess what I'm trying to figure out, and --
- 17 A. I haven't fired my TASER since. I haven't used a TASER 18 since that incident took place.
- 19 Q. Is it because there was never a circumstance where you
- 20 thought it was appropriate?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. Did you ever have a circumstance similar to what you
- 23 encountered with Mr. Merrill, where you used your TASER?
- 24 A. I did. Prior to Mr. Merrill.
- 25 Q. No, I'm talking about afterward. Did you have a

9 (Pages 241 to 244)

Page 244

- 1 A. Okay.
- Q. 1618, that would be like 4:18; is that right?
- A. 4:18 p.m., yes.
- Q. Where it says clear, and I'm looking at this Incident
- Recall, it looks like it says "clear air per 720"?
- 6 A. That means they can clear the air. Which means they were
- 7 holding the air, like I was talking about, that I
- 8 wouldn't be saying anything as I'm driving down. So he
- 9 would come back, say he cleared the air, which means they
- 10 can open the airways back up to dispatch other calls, so
- 11 on and so forth.
- 12 Q. Okay. And then right below that, and again I'm looking
- 13 at this log, it says at 1621 MMR one to two minutes.
- 14 Does that mean somebody's reporting that they're one to
- 15 two minutes out?
- 16 A. I believe I asked where MMR was.
- 17 Q. All right. Is that you? Because I see SA25 below that?
- A. That would have been me, 25 would have been me, because I
- 19 was the Area 2 CPO at that time.
- 20 Q. Okay. Do you remember from the time you arrived to the
- 21 time that the ambulance arrived on scene what radio
- 22 communication was offered or given?
- 23 MR. REISING: By this witness?
- 24 BY MR. FELTY:

1

25 Q. By all the officers responding?

- 1 the one that put that out over the air.
 - Q. From a police officer's standpoint to arrest somebody for

Page 255

Page 256

- 3 carjacking, what is a carjacking?
- 4 A. You overtake the individual, jerk them out of their car.
- 5 If you had a weapon, you could use a weapon to order them 6
 - out of their car.
- 7 Q. Did this individual, Mr. Merrill, to your knowledge,
- 8 order anybody out of a car?
- 9 A. I wasn't there.
- 10 Q. All right. So did you in your mind think when you
- 11 arrived at the scene that you were responding to a
- 12 carjacking situation?
- 13 A. Yeah.
- 14 Q. Why?
- 15 A. Because of what he was doing and what was reported over
- 16 the air.

18

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- 17 Q. What was he doing that led you to think that you were
 - responding to a carjacking situation?
- 19 A. I'm taking my basis off of what Officer Severs reported
- 20 on the radio.
- 21 Q. All right, now these logs on the Incident Recall?
- 22 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 23 Q. Are these an accurate, I mean are these like a verbatim
- 24 type, a verbatim statement of what goes over the air?
- 25 A. I believe everything is recorded with central dispatch,

Page 254

- A. Well, I will tell you this, I know that I told one of the
- 2 three officers to -- as soon as he was in custody, to
- 3 call for a rig, because he was going to be evaluated,
- 4 based on his actions that day, even though the crime had
- 5 been committed, he was going to be mentally evaluated 6 because his demeanor and his actions weren't that of a
- 7 normal person acting you under normal circumstances.
- 8 Q. What was the crime committed?
- 9 A. One, you have felony R & O, resisting and obstructing a
- 10 police officer. And two, you have him attempting to get
- 11 inside the vehicle, which would be considered carjacking.
- 12 Q. Whose vehicle did he attempt to get inside?
- 13 A. I don't know who that person was.
- Q. Do you know if he attempted to get inside a vehicle?
- 15 A. Yeah, Officer Severs actually... I believe that even came 16 out maybe with some of the radio traffic.
- 17 Q. Trying to jump into cars on the back of a vehicle? Did
- 18 you -- were you aware of anything other than trying to
- 19 jump into cars on the back of a vehicle?
- 20 A. I know that he was jumping in and out of cars and that he
- 21 was -- that he jumped on the back of a vehicle at one 22 point and --
- 23 Q. How do you know that?
- 24 A. Well, I don't know that. But I'm going to tell you this,
- that it went out over the air. So and Officer Severs is 25

- so... and I'm assuming that that's where that log
- 2 actually came from was from Saginaw County Central
- 3 Dispatch, so I'm not going to speculate, I don't know, I
- think you'd have to find out from Saginaw County Central 4
 - Dispatch if that is actually a verbatim.
- 6 O. All right, here's what this report says. It says 410 -
 - it says 120410, meaning April 10th, 2004 [sic], 1605,
- 8 that's 4:05 p.m.?
- 9
- 10 Q. All right, it says between East and Hess, black male -- I
- 11 don't know what "LSW" means?
- 12 A. Last seen wearing.
- 13 Q. Black leather jacket and jeans, running around in middle
- 14 of road. To your knowledge, is that referring to Mr.
- 15 Merrill?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Did you have that knowledge before you set out to the
- 18 scene?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Did that suggest anything to you, that there was a
- 21 carjacking in progress?
- A. You can... it heightened my suspicions that something 22
- 23 wasn't right. I guess that's my best way that I can
- 24 answer that as a police officer. Because having worked 25 here for going on 18 years, there's a lot of things that

12 (Pages 253 to 256)

- 1 A. I do not. And I don't ever recall seeing Kyle Brandon
- 2 there. He may have came in after the fact when we were
- 3 leaving, but I don't know who the officers were that
- 4 relieved us when we left.
- 5 Q. All right. When there's no... on these other ones
 - there's some, you know, like we talked about where
- 7 there's communication over the radio, these others where
- 8 it just doesn't really say anything, just a unit number,
- 9 do you know what's going on there?
- 10 A. Well, I'm wondering if there is -- there had to be some
- kind of conversation if this is from central dispatch.
- Because otherwise why would they even... it's not like
- we're in our cars writing on our computers where they're
- gonna track that. There be had to be some type of
- conversation that was being conversed over the air.
- 16 Q. Do you know how these get transcribed, or does somebody
- have to input them, or how it works?
- 18 A. No, I don't. I'm just thinking if they have that on
- there -- this is off the top of my head -- it would seem
- 20 like common sense there must have been some type of radio
- 21 traffic for them to even have that individual listed on
- 22 there.

6

- 23 Q. All right. At 16, who a K. Bucholtz?
- 24 A. Kyle Bucholtz, he's a... he's no longer with our
- department. He's a conservation officer now.

61 Page 263

- 1 Q. How far were you guys from... would it have been, is 2 St. Mary's where you would typically take people?
- 3 A. Covenant, he would have been going for the mental 4 evaluation.
- 5 Q. How far was Covenant from where you were at?
- 6 A. Covenant would be, let's say at the most, two miles.
- 7 Q. All right, so --
- $8\,$ $\,$ A. Even though St. Mary's is closer, they don't have the
- 9 facility there. Community Mental Health is actually
- 10 stationed at Covenant.
- 11 Q. If you were two miles at the most from Covenant in a
- squad car, you probably could have gotten Mr. Merrill to
 - the hospital in less than two minutes or about
- 14 two minutes?
- 15 A. No, not driving the speed limit, and not getting out of
- that traffic. I guess I don't understand your question.
- 17 Q. Okay

13

- 18 A. Can you be specific with your question --
- 19 O. Sure.
- 20 A. -- why you're asking it in the manner in which you are?
- 21 Q. Can I be specific as to why I'm asking it in the -- is
- 22 that what you're -- why I'm asking it in the manner in
- 23 which I am?
- 24 A. Yeah, I guess.
 - 5 Q. Sure, I can. Was this an emergent situation after he was

Page 262

- Q. Was Kyle Bucholtz on scene?
- 2 A. He may have been one of the officers that relieved us
- when we were relieved from the scene. But I don't recallseeing him.
- 5 Q. All right. It looks like 4:15 p.m. request MMR?
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. And it says SA26. Do you know who SA26 was?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. That wasn't you, though?
- 10 A. I should have been 25. 25. So 26, I don't know who that
- is. I'm not the one that called for MMR. I told one of
- those guys to call for MMR.
- 13 Q. Let's see if this says. I thought I had a list in here.
- Now when you... other instances where you used the TASER, is it common for you to call for an ambulance,
- or do you just, once you get the person in custody,
- handcuffed in the back of the car, take them to the
- 18 hospital?
- 19 A. If the probes were used and if the -- I should say if it
- 20 was deployed with the probes, I have removed the probes
- 21 right at the scene, had MMR come by take a look, make
- sure he's okay. They may wash him with an alcohol swab
- or whatever, maybe put a Band-Aid on it, then they would
- go... basically, they would say they're fine, and off to
- 25 jail they would go.

- 1 in handcuffs?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Okay. So to take him to the hospital, was an ambulance
- 4 required?
- 5 A. Yes.

14

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- 6 Q. Why?
- 7 A. Well, because, number one, MMR's going to come on the
- 8 scene, they're going to assess the situation, they're
- 9 going to brief the doctors right directly at the hospital
- and let the doctors know what they have. And then
- they're going to also brief the security at the hospital
- that the police just got done fighting with this
- individual, so they're going to want -- the hospital's
 - going to want to have that information so that they can
- get the hospital prepped for when he arrives.
- 16 Q. So you as police officers are going to communicate what
 - just happened to EMS attendants, and then they're going
- to drive the person to the hospital, who are going to
 - tell the security guards and the triage what happened on
- 20 the scene?
- 21 A. They call ahead. MMR, the MMR personnel, which is
- 22 normal, their protocol is to call ahead, inform the
- hospital of what they have, you know, so that when they
- arrive, normal protocol is security's outside waiting for
 the individual, the doctors know what's going on, crisis

14 (Pages 261 to 264)

Page 264